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Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-03

INR-10 NSAE-00 OC-06 RSC-01 COME-00 OIC-04 AF-10

ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 DRC-01 IO-13 NIC-01 DODE-00 PA-03

USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 AID-20 /165 W
---------- 122927
R 180755Z SEP 73
FM USDEL TORREMOLINOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 05

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETEL, ITU
SUBJECT: ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE, TORREMOLINOS,
SEPTEMBER 14 - OCTOBER 26, 1973, SITREP 2.

FOR EB/TD FROM USDEL TORREMOLINOS.

1. SECOND PLENARY AGENDA CALLED INTER ALIA FOR SETTING OF DATES FOR NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF SYG AND DEPUTY AND MEMBERS OF NEW ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL. THIS LED TO EXTENDED DEBATE ON POLITICAL AND PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS WHICH LASTED ENTIRE DAY.

2. AMONG POLITICAL MATTERS DISCUSSED WERE:

A. UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP: USSR REGRETTED ABSENCE OF UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP AND SPECIFICALLY FACT THAT NORTH KOREA WAS NOT MEMBER OF ITU. ROK DEL GAVE LOW KEY RESPONSE NOTING THAT 1971 VOTE ON NORTH KOREAN APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP HAD BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL. ADDED THAT IF NORTH KOREA REAPPLIES, ROK WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT OPPOSE. PRC DEL GAVE POLEMICAL SPEECH, TERMING LON NOL GOVERNMENT QUOTE SCUM UNQUOTE AND
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DEMANDING SEATING OF SIHANOUK REPS, PLUS MEMBERSHIP

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OF NORTH KOREA, NORTH VIETNAM AND PRG. (NO EVIDENCE
THUS FAR THAT REPS OF ANY OF FOREGOING CURRENTLY
IN TORREMOLINOS OR WILL ACTUALLY APPLY.)

B. PORTUGAL-SOUTH AFRICA. NIGERIAN REP PROPOSED
THAT BOTH PORTUGAL AND SOUTH AFRICA BE EXPELLED FROM
MEMBERSHIP AND THAT PORTUGAL BE EXCLUDED FROM FURTHER
PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCE. MOST OTHER AFRICAN REPS
SUPPORTED NIGERIA, BUT NO FORMAL RESOLUTION YET TO
THIS EFFECT SUBMITTED.

3. OTHER MAJOR MATTERS DISCUSSED WERE:

A. DATES AND METHOD OF NOMINATION AND ELECTION
OF SYG, DEPUTY AND ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL. ARGENTINA
TOOK LEAD IN PROPOSING THAT ELECTIONS BE POSTPONED AT
LEAST UNTIL AFTER CONFERENCE HAD MADE BASIC DECISIONS
SUCH AS SIZE OF COUNCIL AND PROPOSAL FOR SECOND DEPUTY
SYG, ALTHOUGH IT WAS REALIZED THIS MIGHT TAKE AT LEAST
THREE WEEKS. ON OTHER HAND, MALAYSIA LED GROUP PROPOSING
DECISION BE TAKEN SOONEST REGARDING THESE MATTERS IN
COMMITTEE WITH REPORT BY SEPTEMBER 21 AND ELECTIONS BY
SEPTEMBER 24; RATIONALE WAS THAT SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF VIP
DELEGATION HEADS HAD TO DEPART EARLY AND ELECTIONS SHOULD
BE HELD BEFORE THEY LEAVE. STILL OTHER MEMBERS WISHED TO
DELAY ELECTIONS UNTIL END OF CONFERENCE.
DESPITE PROTRACTED DISCUSSION THIS ITEM, NO DECISION REACHED
BY END OF DAY'S DEBATE.

B. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - VIRTUALLY ALL LDCS DECRIED SMALL
AMOUNTS OF FUNDS AVAILABLE
FOR ITU TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. IVORY COAST SUGGESTED A
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FUND IN THE REGULAR ITU BUDGET AND
ARGENTINA ADVOCATED ESTABLISHMENT OF ANOTHER
ELECTIVE POSITION, SIMILAR TO DIRECTORS OF INTERNATIONAL
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES (CCIS) TO CONCENTRATE ON
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. SEVERAL OTHER DELS SUGGESTED THEY
MIGHT SUPPORT CREATION OF POSITION OF SECOND DEPUTY SYG
IF HE BE PUT IN CHARGE OF ITU TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
ACTIVITIES.
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4. U.S. ENTERED LOW KEY STATEMENT NOTING LONG TERM
EFFECTIVENESS OF UNION UNDER EXISTING STRUCTURE AND
SUGGESTING CAUTION IN ADOPTING MAJOR CHANGES. CONCLUDED
WITH OPTIMISTIC REFERENCE TO PROBABLE SUCCESS OF
CONFERENCE WITH SUPPORT FOR AGENDA TO DATE AS FORMULATED
BY SECRETARIAT.

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5. DEBATE SCHEDULED CONTINUE SEPTEMBER 18 WITH
APPROXIMATELY TWENTY MORE COUNTRIES LISTED TO
MAKE STATEMENTS. BEAM

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Disposition Authority: golinofr
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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